

# MESEKIU'S NEWS

Friday, March 16, 2001      Weekly Newsletter      Volume 3, Issue 11

PCC-CRE will conduct a training on cucumber and Chinese cabbage production in the Republic of Palau based on a recently published CRE publication of crop profiles for Cucumber and Chinese Cabbage in the Republic of Palau, authored by Dr. Nelson M. Esquerro and Ms. Geraldine Rengiil. It will be held on April 2-5, 2001 at the CE Training Room. The training starts at 8:00 am-4:00 pm each day. The main objective of the training is to disseminate information on how farmers have been growing the two vegetable crops successfully for several years now.

Topics for the training include production facts, production regions, horticultural practices, insects diseases, weeds and their control, tips in pesticide spraying, types of pesticides, insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, simple pesticide calculation and pesticide sprayers.

The training is FREE. If you are interested in participating, call PCC-CRE at Phone #488-4983.

## Short-term training classes for Spring 2001

- Basic Accounting
- Basic Plumbing
- Basic Small Engine
- Japanese Conversation
- Global Positioning System Training
- Chinese Language
- English Conversation
- English Writing
- English Reading

For more details, call/email Lorraine Rdiall at: 488-2471, ext. 270  
lorrainr@belau.org


**TOEFL Information for School Year 2000-01**

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration deadline</u>	<u>Scores mailed</u>
May 12, 2001	Mar. 26, 2001	June 20, 2001

\* Registration fee is \$110 and you may contact the PCC Counseling Office at 488-3036 for more information.

Do you have a lot of plastic bags but have no idea what to do with them? Why not create something beautiful and useful out of them. PCC-Continuing Education has come up with the "formula" on how to turn ordinary plastic bags into beautiful handbags and backpacks. Call Lorraine Rdiall at 488-2471, ext. 270 for more information.

**Celebrating Birthdays**

	Karen Mobel	March 17
	Bruce Rimirch	March 19
	Keith Ignacio	March 20

**Happy Birthday to you you all!!!**

The Agriculture Club has made two major contributions to the Agriculture Science Program since the beginning of the year. First, the Club bought a powerful new twine trimmer "Green Machine" for the program. Then, as if that was not enough, the Club bought a new digital camera. The club paid over \$1000 for both pieces of equipment. The "Green Machine" was purchased from Mason's Hardware, and received a 10% discount. The digital camera is a Sony Movica which will be used by the program in documenting all their field work. Club Advisor Joel Miles was able to save the Club over \$200 by ordering the camera from outside, rather than purchasing it locally. According to Dr. Miles, these two contributions by the students will greatly enhance the Agricultural Science Program. Thank you Agriculture Club! *(Press Release, Agricultural Science Program)*



Club members with their new green machine. L-R: Presley, Kirkland, Fred, Tripler, Hartman.



Continental Micronesia did it again when they donated boxes of brand new aloha shirts and amenity packs to PCC last week. The College has become a choice recipient for the airline's goodwill as it was only a month ago when it received boxes of blankets from the airline company. Above, Continental Micronesia's staff Doris Eledui (r) and Maryann Tanaka (c) presenting their donations to Armstrong Debelbot of PCC. Thank you "Air-Mike!"



Dr. Wanjun Han

Palau Community College welcomes Dr. Wanjun Han, the new aquaculture researcher at Cooperative Research and Extension Department. Dr. Han's expertise in nutrition and feed for aquaculture animals will benefit and enhance PCC's programs in prawn and mullet culture. One of the biggest challenges facing aquaculture farmers is the cost of feed. In Palau farmers face even higher cost due to shipping charges. Dr. Han will focus on developing food for aquaculture species utilizing locally available materials and therefore reducing the cost of feeds.

Dr. Han is a native of China but has been residing, for almost two years, in Canada. He did his doctoral work at the University of Mississippi on the development and evaluation of artificial diets for culture of *Macrobrachium* and striped bass larvae. We are glad to have Dr. Han as the newest member of the PCC family and we look forward to working with him in the development of the aquaculture industry in Palau.

# Micronesian Seminar FORUM

## What Should Our Schools Be Doing?

Taken From: [www.micsem.org](http://www.micsem.org)

Many people lament the shortcomings of our education system, but sometimes it's hard to identify just what these shortcomings really are. In the series of forum discussions that will run over the next few months, I would like to suggest what I think these shortcomings may be and how they might be addressed.

The first major problem with our education system, I would propose, is the widespread confusion on the goals of education. There is no consensus on what the schools should be doing and what sort of product they should be turning out. How can we blame the kids in the schools or their teachers if we ourselves are unsure of what they should be doing? If we hope to improve our public schools, they must have a clear sense of mission. We will have to come to agreement on what we hope to do with students in our classrooms.

At present we seem to be undecided on where we are heading in education. It is as if there are three hands on the tiller pulling us in different directions. Various segments of the community seem to espouse what seem to be very different educational goals. The three most common views of education and its goals are these:

*-Education as manpower training.* The main concern of the people espousing this goal is to help the economy take off by providing young people with the skills that will enable them to find employment, no matter how menial. Education is, first and foremost, training for future work.

*-Education as cultural preservation.* These people, feeling that the traditional culture is under attack by modern society, think that the first call of education is to turn out individuals who can maintain some continuity with the past. Education is to foster the traditional culture.

*-Education for academic skills.* The guiding belief here is that education ought to teach people to read and write and think. They feel that only by providing the best and brightest with what they need to get a first-rate education is there hope that some of these will return to lead their nations out of the economic desert. Education is to prepare the individual with the skills needed to cope with life, no matter where.

Let's look a little more closely at each of these sets of goals.

*Manpower training:* Those who embrace manpower training think that the purpose of education is to train young people who will be able to earn an income in the future, while at the same time contributing to their society's economic development. The key concern in this way of looking at education is to bring about

prosperity both for the individual and society. Advocates of this position might say something like this: "Micronesia doesn't need more planners and college grads. It needs people who can find jobs... who can replace the expatriates now working in the islands." A relevant education, in this view, is a matter of merely providing the skills that young people need to get jobs.

Parents plead with teachers to train their sons and daughters in whatever they will need to get a job. Educators look with covetous eyes on the large sums of federal program money earmarked to prepare the young for the "world of work" and ask why they shouldn't stress manpower training in the schools if that's what it takes to get the program money. Legislators and congressmen, pressed by their constituents to show some economic progress, in turn put pressure on the schools to prepare young people to find and hold a job. All of them subscribe to the view that schooling, before all else, ought to provide a livelihood for young men and women, while simultaneously moving the national economy forward.

*Cultural preservation:* Many Micronesians today believe that culture is the most important thing to be learned in school. Culture and language ground our identity, they argue, and so the culture and language should have a central place in the school curriculum. This is all the more critical in a day when the traditional culture seems to be under attack from the forces of modernization on all sides. Since formal education, powerful western institution that it is, is seen as representing one of the main threats to culture, the school should be tamed and used to educate the young in their traditional culture rather than wean them away from it. The local language should also be made a priority, even if this means de-emphasizing English.

*Academic skills:* Those who espouse this goal hold that the main purpose of education is to develop the mind. They might agree that some attitudes and values can be absorbed in school along the way, but that this is secondary to the main mission of the school: the development of students' brains. There are basic skills that should receive special emphasis-literacy, mathematics, and language-but the point of education, in this view, is not simply to master these or other skills; it is to keep learning as much as possible. The traditional disciplines such as science and social studies are valued as much for the development of the mind as for the information they impart on the young person's own physical and social environment.

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# RETENTION WEB PAGE

PCC Retention Office, Tel.#: 488-2471, ext. 247

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In true island fashion, education mission statements tend to be a compromise so as to please everyone. Many include a little bit of each of the three goal statements just to make sure that the interests of all groups are represented. As a political expedient this is understandable, but as a guide for education it only adds to the confusion. There is an old proverb that says: He who does too many things does nothing. By trying to be inclusive of all concerns, we may end up focusing on nothing and failing to provide the clear sense of direction our education system needs as the first step in improvement.

## Vacancy Announcement

PCC is looking for instructors for the the following courses to be offered this coming Summer semester.

English	Accounting
Science	Health
Social Science	Bookkeeping
Computers Skills	

If you're intrested please call Ms. **Alvina Timarong** at 488-2471 ext. 248.

## Academic Calendar Spring Semester 2001

March	19-23	M-F	Spring Break
March	19	F	Last Day for all Withdrawals
April	13	F	Holiday: Good Friday
May	3	TH	Last Day of Instruction
May	4	F	Holiday: Senior Citizen's Day
May	7-9	M-W	Final Examination Period
May	11	F	Grades Due/ End of Spring Semester
May	18	F	Commencement Exercise/ Graduation

## Vacancy Announcement

**Position Title: Librarian**

**Salary: \$16,010.00 to \$18,730.00 per annum**

### Examples of Duties:

Provide professional library services to the College and its client, including, but not limited to assisting individuals and groups in locating or obtaining library materials. Maintain and update the library circulation and reference collections of print resources such as general and technical books, serial publications, documents, and other material; maintain and revise, as required, index, control systems for general, technical books and other library printed materials; assist in selecting, ordering, cataloging, classifying, processing of general/technical books, periodicals, and other printed materials; communicate information to students, faculties, public, regarding library activities such as services/facility's available, procedures and policies, develop and implement a library budget; assist faculty and other clients in developing bibliographies, promotion, outreach services and activities, and serve on College committees, as assigned; select, direct, train and supervise student library workers; and perform other related duties as assigned by supervisor.

### Minimum Qualification Requirements:

Master or Bachelor's degree from an accredited higher education institutions in library science or posses field experience in the knowledge and skills required to perform the duties and responsibilities of a community college librarian. Previous successful librarian experience in higher institution is preferable.

### General Inforamtion:

Application forms can be obtained from the College's Human Resources Office. Send completed application, with transcripts, resume, and verification of previous employment, if any, to the above address. Please feel free to contact us 488-2471, ext. 267 should you have questions or need further information.

**PCC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ACTION EMPLOYER**